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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE REMOVAL AND PREVENTION EPA CONTRACT 68-01-7367

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jerry Saseen, OSC, U.S. EPA, Region III

PCS #1196

THRU: FROM: Richard Habrukowich, TATL, Region III

SUBJECT: Eager Beaver Lumber Company Site Assessment

Townville, Crawford County, PA

DATE:

May 21, 1987

BACKGROUND

The Eager Beaver Lumber Company (EBLC) is located on Old Mesdowville Road, Rt. 408, approximately one mile easy of Richmond, Crawford County, PA. The site was used by the EBLC for treating wood with preservatives from 1983 until its closing in 1986. Discharge from the tank of the wood preservative solutions containing lindane, pentachlorophenol and tetrachlorophenol has resulted in containnation of the soil as well as the adjacent Beaver Fond.

PADER has estimated that approximately 2500 gallons of wood treating solution was discharged onto the ground each year.

FIELD INVESTIGATION

On May 14, 1987, TATMs Shekhar Subramaniam, Mike Wilson and Tracy Catanese arrived at the site to conduct an assessment. Larry Ingerson, of PADER met the TAT on the site at 0900 hours. Mr. Ingerson talked to Mr. Smith, an accountant for the EBLC and obtained premission to enter the site.

A preliminary assessment was made to identify sample locations. Sampling by PADER had indicated high levels lindene near the dip tank. The 3000-gallon steel tank is located approximately 25 feet from the northwest corner of the EBLC office building. The tank is approximately 20 feet long with a diameter of about 5 feet. A section of the tank had been cut to facilitate lumber "dipping" operations. The tank which is 3/4 full is presently covered with a tarpaulin to prevent accumulation of rain water. A two feet deep trench runs from the discharge end of the tank towards a pond approximately 300 feet to the northeast. A second pond is located approximately 10 feet east of the first pond. Drainage from the site is towards the northeast and feeds into a stream which is a tributary of Muddy Creek. Three buildings are located on the site. The office building is located at the entrance while the lumber storage buildings are located 200 feet to the West.

Roy F. Weston, Inc.
SPILL PREVENTION & EMERGENCY RESPONSE DIVISION
In Association with ICF Technology Inc., C.C. Johnson & Associates, Inc., Resource Applications of Conference Consultants, Inc., and Environmental Toxicology International, Inc.

Eager Beaver Lumber Co. Site Assessment May 21, 1987 Page 2



Surface and core samples (8"-16" depth) were collected from four locations. Water samples were collected from ponds #1 and #2. Following this, the TATMs dressed out in Level B protective clothing and conducted air monitoring around the tank. No response was obtained above background; however, when the HNU probe was inserted into the outlet pipe of the tank, a reading of 150 ppm was obtained. The tarpaulin covering the tank was removed and a sample was collected using glass tubes. A small volume of sample was also collected by opening the discharge pipe. The tank appeared to have a layer of sludge at the bottom. The tarpaulin cover was replaced on completion of the sampling.

Two buildings located to the west of the office buildings were inspected. The buildings which had originally been used to store lumber were empty at the time of the inspection. Mr. Smith indicated that a 250-gallon fuel tank stored in one of the buildings was lussed and would be removed in a few days.

The building located at the entrance to the size houses the offices of the Eager Beaver Lumber Company. The first floor of the building was used by the Red Carpenter Packing Company in the 1960's. Five drums are stored in the back room on the first floor. Mr. Ingerson informed the TAT that three of the drums possibly contained motor oil while one drum contained spices or preservatives remaining from the packing operations. The fifth drum was empty.

TATMs departed from the site as 1525 hours. Results of the sample analyses are expected on May 22, 1987.

SS/djt





